

The Clove Hitch

The builder's grip that bites a post and won't let go.



FIG. 36 A.—Clove hitch or builder's hitch (tying).

From A. Hyatt Verrill's Knots, Splices and Rope Work (1917) · public domain

"Round, cross over; round again, tuck under — the clove hitch holds."

1

First turn

Pass the end of the rope around the spar or post, bringing it up and across over its own standing part.

2

Second turn

Carry the end around the spar a second time, in the same direction, so it sits beside the first turn.

3

Tuck and set

Pass the end under itself — between the rope and the spar — then pull both parts tight. The two turns should pinch the end against the wood.

Practise until your fingers remember it. — Widow Maker · wmc.penguinboisoftware.com · a PenguinBoi Network show